

## **Graduate Sciences Program Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

### **Application Process**

#### **How do I apply for the Graduate Sciences Program?**

To apply for the GSP, applicants can download an application, application instructions, and reference forms at:

[http://educationalpartnership.noaa.gov/grad\\_science/welcome.html](http://educationalpartnership.noaa.gov/grad_science/welcome.html).

The application is available annually October through January. If applicants do not have Internet access, hard-copy applications can be requested by contacting: Minority Access, Inc., NOAA EPP Graduate Sciences Program, 5214 Baltimore Avenue Hyattsville, MD, 20781. Minority Access may also be reached at (301) 779-7100 extension 16.

#### **What must I submit to apply?**

Applicants are required to submit ALL of the following items for an application to be deemed complete and eligible:

- a completed application form;
- essay on "How Your Course of Study will Benefit or Complement NOAA's Mission";
- statement of the applicant's academic and career goals;
- letter of Acceptance to an Accredited Graduate School/University; a List of Graduate Schools/Universities to which you have applied for admission for Fall 2008; OR Certification of Enrollment as a full-time student at your current Graduate School;
- official college transcript(s) (one for each institution attended sent to NOAA by the institution);
- GRE Scores;
- three references from individuals who know you in a professional capacity; and a,
- list of current and planned courses.

#### **Where do I submit the application?**

Mail completed applications to:

Minority Access, Inc.  
NOAA EPP Graduate Sciences Program  
5214 Baltimore Avenue  
Hyattsville, MD 20781

Applications may also be submitted electronically to: [ebarnard@minorityaccess.org](mailto:ebarnard@minorityaccess.org). However, all supporting documentation, including references, official transcripts, and official GRE scores must be mailed to the address above and received by 5:00pm EST on January 31, 2008.

**Why do I submit my application to Minority Access, Inc.? Will they give it to NOAA by the deadline?**

Applications and all supporting materials must be sent to Minority Access, Inc., NOAA's administrative support entity for the Graduate Sciences Program. Minority Access, Inc. will provide all complete application packages received by the deadline of January 31, 2008, at 5 p.m EST, to NOAA.

**Where do I check to make sure Minority Access, Inc. has received my complete application package?**

Contact Evelyn Bernard at Minority Access, Inc. with all inquiries regarding application packages. Evelyn can be reached at [ebarnard@minorityaccess.org](mailto:ebarnard@minorityaccess.org) or (301) 779-7100 extension 16.

**What if I miss the deadline date?**

The Office of Education (OED), Educational Partnership Program (EPP) will not review applications or supporting materials received after the deadline date. Applications and materials received after January 31, 2008, will be deemed ineligible. Therefore, NOAA strongly recommends applicants contact Minority Access, Inc., at [ebarnard@minorityaccess.org](mailto:ebarnard@minorityaccess.org) or (301) 779-7100 extension 16, to confirm that the submitted application and all supporting materials have been received prior to the deadline date and time.

**Who do I contact if I have questions about the application or GSP?**

If applicants have questions about the application or need additional information please contact Dr. Priti Brahma at (301) 713-9437 x118 or [priti.brahma@noaa.gov](mailto:priti.brahma@noaa.gov). Please identify the program name when requesting information.